

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

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R 251600Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2342

INFO USUN NEW YORK 688

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMCONSUL ZAGREB

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR US YO CU

SUBJ: YUGOSLAV PRESS MASKS ANTI-US ASPECTS OF HAVANA  
NONALIGNED MEETING

REF: BELGRADE 1125 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: HAVANA MEETING OF NONALIGNED COORDINATING BUREAU, ATTENDED BY FONSEC MINIC, WAS REPORTED IN GREAT DETAIL BY YUGOSLAV PRESS, BUT SIGNIFICANT ANTI-US FEATURES OF MEETING WERE EITHER PLAYED ODOWN OR OMITTED ENTIRELY.

2. MARCH 18 TANJUG RELEASE INTENDED FOR DISTRIBUTION TO NONALIGNED COUNTRIES MENTIONED THAT PUERTO RICO ISSUE WOULD BE ON AGENDA, AND THAT P. R. SOCIALIST PARTY HAD OBSERVER STATUS, BUT BORBA (WHICH RELIED EXCLUSIVELY ON TANJUG COVERAGE) DID NOT CARRY RELEASE, AND POLITIKA (WHICH RELIED ON CORRESPONDENT JURI GUSTINCIC) NEVER EVEN MENTIONED PUERTO RICO, TANJUG, BORBA AND POLITIKA ALL NOTED THAT PANAMA CANAL AND US INVOLVEMENT IN INDOCHINA WOULD BE ON AGENDA.

3. RAUL ROA INTRODUCTORY SPEECH (WHICH TOOK UP MOST OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MAR 18 MEETING) WAS GIVEN CURSORY SUMMARY BY GUSTINCIC;

BARELY MENTIONED BY TANJUG AND BORBA.

4. FULL TEXT OF MAR 18 MINIC SPEECH WAS REPORTED. MINIC NOTED ALGIERS CONFERENCE SUPPORTED "THE DAMANDS OF CUBA AND THE ESTABLISHING OF FULL SOVERIGNTY OF PANAMA OVER THE PANAMA CANAL", BUT DID NOT MENTION PUERTO RICO, AND PHRASED HIS PASSAGE ON INDOCHINA TO IMPLY THAT SAIGON WAS VIOLATING PARIS ACCORDS WITHOUT MENTIONING US.

5. MAR 20 FIDEL CASTRO CLOSING SPEECH WAS COMPLETELY SUMMARIZED. PRESS EMPHASIZED CASTRO'S ACCUSATION THAT OPEC COUNTRIES CONCENTRATED THEIR WEALTH IN DC'S, NOT LDC'S, AND MINIC'S PRAISE OF SPEECH WAS CAVEAT THAT NONALIGNED NATIONS SOLIDLY SUPPORTED OPEC. ONLY GUSTINCIC REPORTED THAT CASTRO HAD MADE ANTI-US STATEMENTS.

6. HAVANA DECLARATION WAS SUMMARIZED IN PRESS MAR 22, BUT ALL REFERENCES TO PANAMA AND PUERTO RICO WERE OMITTED. PRESS DID REPORT THAT "THE DECLARATION NOTES THAT THE PARIS AGREEMENTS ARE SYSTEMATICALLY AND FLAGRANTLY BEING VIOLATED BY THE UNITED STATES". MAR 21 RED TANJUG (WHICH DOES NOT REACH READING PUBLIC) DID CARRY PRENSA LATINA'S COMPLETE SUMMARY OF DECLARATION.

7. MINIC MAR 24 STATEMENT IN BELGRADE ON RESULTS OF HAVANA MEETING FULLY REPORTED. MINIC ONCE TO THE NEED FOR "LIQUIDATION OF NEOCOLONIALISM AND NEOCOLONIALIST POSITIONS IN LATIN AMERICA", AND FOR MORE EQUITABLE RELATIONS BETWEEN LATIN AMERICA AND "ITS NORTHER NEIGHBOR", BUT HE TOO AVOIDED SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO US.

8. POLITIKA (MAR 22, 23) AND BORBA (MAR 17,23) CARRIED EXTREMELY BLAND EDITORIALS ON HAVANA MEETING, NEVER REFERRED TO US.

9. COMMENT: DURING MAR 10 CALL ON PREMIER BIJEDIC, AMBASSADOR OBSERVED (REFTEL THAT HAVANA MEETING WOULD COINCIDE WITH BIJEDIC VISIT TO WASHINGTON AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT ITS DELIVERATIONS AND PUBLIC STATEMENTS WOULD NOT MAR FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE OF VISIT. YUGOSLAVS APPEAR TO HAVE MADE SYSTEMATIC EFFORT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO THIS END, FOR EVENT LIKE HAVANA MEETING HAS IN PAST PROVIDED OCCASION FOR MAJOR COMMENTS ON TENDENTIOUS ISSUES BY YUGOSLAV MEDIA AS WELL AS THEIR GIVING SPACE TO SUCH COMMENTS BY OTHERS.  
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## Message Attributes

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